REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the above-referenced application and are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

With respect to the prior art rejection based on Mendez, Crawford, and Harris, Applicant has amended the independent claims to recite that "the pulse-width modulated signal includes three characteristics that represent three states, a first state corresponding to a synchronization information, a second state corresponding to a low-signal information, and a third state corresponding to a high-signal information." Support for this amendment is found at least in Figure 3 and on page 6, line 24, to page 7, line 13, of the specification. What is shown in the prior art references is the encoding of a PWM signal by binary non-return-to-zero NRZ information. In this case Mendez does not explicitly show the interface arrangement for exchanging the PWM signals and the asynchronous signals between the master controller and the slave devices and also not the detail of PWM encoding. The three recited states are not part of any PWM signal of the three references. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 2/15/06

By: Reg. 102 (R. No. 41,772)

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